

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) A complex of a ligand and a polypeptide, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is homologous or at least 70% identical to a murine synaptotagmin II BoNT/B botulinum toxin serotype B (BoNT/B)-binding domain at amino acid position 40 to 60 and wherein the ligand binds to the polypeptide at the amino acid sequence that is homologous or at least 70% identical to the murine synaptotagmin II BoNT/B-binding domain at amino acid position 40 to 60, with the proviso that where the polypeptide is a full length synaptotagmin, the ligand is not a botulinum toxin.

11. (previously presented) The complex of claim 50, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% identical to a murine synaptotagmin II BoNT/B-binding domain at amino acid position 40 to 60.

12. (previously presented) The complex of claim 50, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical to a murine synaptotagmin II BoNT/B-binding domain at amino acid position 40 to 60.

13. (previously presented) The complex of claim 50, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 95% identical to a murine synaptotagmin II BoNT/B-binding domain at amino acid position 40 to 60.

14. (currently amended) The ~~isolated polypeptide complex~~ of claim 50, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of amino acids 40-60 of SEQ ID NO:7 and amino acids 40-60 of SEQ ID NO:9.

15-40. (canceled)

41. (previously presented) The complex of claim 10, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is identical or homologous to a murine synaptotagmin II BoNT/B-binding domain at amino acid position 40 to 60.

42. (currently amended) The complex of claim 10, wherein the ligand is BoNT/B ~~botulinum neurotoxin B~~, and wherein the polypeptide is a synthetic or recombinant peptide.

43. (currently amended) The complex of claim 42, wherein the polypeptide has a sequence identical or homologous to a luminal domain portion of a synaptotagmin.

44. (previously presented) The complex of claim 42, wherein the polypeptide consists of the BoNT/B-binding domain and optionally further consists of an affinity tag.

45. (currently amended) The complex of claim 10, wherein the ligand is an antibody or a botulinum toxin fragment that binds to the BoNT/B-binding domain and reduces binding of BoNT/B ~~botulinum neurotoxin B~~ to the polypeptide.

46. (previously presented) The complex of any one of claim 10 or claim 45, wherein the polypeptide is a full length synaptotagmin.

47. (currently amended) The complex of claim 45, wherein the complex polypeptide is formed located in vivo in a mammal.

48. (previously presented) The complex of claim 10, wherein the polypeptide further comprises a binding site for a ganglioside.

49. (previously presented) The complex of claim 10, wherein the polypeptide is a recombinant polypeptide.

50. (previously presented) The complex of claim 10, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 70% identical to a murine synaptotagmin II BoNT/B-binding domain at amino acid position 40 to 60.

51. (new) A method of forming the complex of claim 10 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

52. (new) A method of forming the complex of claim 11 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

53. (new) A method of forming the complex of claim 12 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

54. (new) A method of forming the complex of claim 13 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

55. (new) A method of forming the complex of claim 14 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

56. (new) A method of forming the complex of claim 41 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

57. (new) A method of forming the complex of claim 42 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

58. (new) The method of claim 57 further comprising one step of contacting the peptide with a second compound, and another step of determining influence of the second compound on binding of BoNT/B to the peptide.

59. (new) The method of claim 58 wherein the step of determining is used to identify an agent that reduces toxicity of BoNT/B in human.

60. (new) A method of forming the complex of claim 43 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

61. (new) A method of forming the complex of claim 44 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

62. (new) A method of forming the complex of claim 45 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

63. (new) A method of forming the complex of claim 46 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

64. (new) The method of claim 51 wherein the complex is formed *in vivo* in a mammal to thereby reduce toxicity of a botulinum toxin in the mammal.

65. (new) A method of forming the complex of claim 48 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

66. (new) A method of forming the complex of claim 50 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

67. (new) The method of claim 51 wherein the ligand is BoNT/B, and further comprising a step of detecting the complex to determine at least one of the presence and quantity of BoNT/B.